Asher Sizemore Little Jimmie's

HEARTH & HOME SONGS



MOUNTAIN BALLADS ... OLD HYMNS CHILDREN'S SONGS ... COWBOY SONGS

















"Songs That Will Live Forever"

ASHER and LITTLE JIMMIE'S

- 1935 EDITION -

"HEARTH and HOME SONGS"

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Out of the Silence with "Asher and Little Jimmie"

By Rev. Thos. B. Ashley

The Uplands have always had a message for those who have ears to hear. They speak of mystery, of sorrow and sometimes of loneliness, but always with an interpreter. Well might we remember that the Appalachian Range, in the shadows of which we move, is among the oldest regions, with traditions and customs of an honored and revered ancestry. Their clanish, factional, feudal and fatal views of life, have come under the grind for a living and combat with natural forces, which for 150 years have bent the backs of our Kentucky Mountain Folk . . . What we need and all we ask is "a chance." Develop the "mountain youth" to a point of productive energy, he will win his contests in athletics, business and the like, producing great teachers, doctors, preachers and professional men and women in all walks of life.—An intense individualism and family loyalty to inherited traditions and ideals, make our natives comparatively slow in yielding to progressive movements which involve personal habits and customs. Therefore the demand for a trained, skilled and honest Christian leadership.

These great truths flowed in upon the soul of my choice friend "Asher Sizemore" during those brimming days of silence while he plied the withe to the backs of the ox-team, and wielded the hoe and the broad-ax, amid the solitude of a mountain wilderness. This intimate contact with Nature, sent deep its influence into the life of this "mountain youth."

It was here I met Mr. Sizemore in the heart of Pike County with its 789 square miles of mountain picturesqueness, with society in the process of transition so rapid in places as to leave one breathless at times. It was on a Good Friday night, at the altar of a beautiful Community Church, the sacred shrine of the worshippers of twelve different Denominations, that I laid my arm about the shoulders of this fine youth, who was bowing in humble submission to the Will of God, and pronounced the blessings of the Church upon him. At the time he was engaged in the Accounting Department of a large Coal Company and I was its Religious Educational Director. I am sure you need no words now, to explain why I'm writing these few lines.

Sometime, somewhere in the poetic nature of this "mountain youth" was born the seed of song. Often it must have come to the verge of its unfolding. One day, we know not when, but it was a blessed day, a mighty inspiration smote his soul, and "out of the silence" the seed burst into blossom, and "Asher" gave the world his lyrical trust. A lyric which has been sung and played into the hearts of countless thousands and will continue until its music melts away and blends with the harmonies of another world.

As we pause for calm reflection upon our mutual good fortunes, around the threshold of the Second Anniversary of the publishing of their book of "Old Fashioned Hymns and Mountain Ballads," many are asking, "why the secret of their seeming unaccountable success?" I think it can easily be explained in this manner. "Asher and Little Jimmie" sing only, the "music of the heart," which the majority of folk, these trying days, long for. We do not need excitement or sensational pleasure, but help and comfort. Those whose pink and purple of life's sunset are meeting and mingling with the golden glow of Eternity's morning, as well as the sick and the sorrowing, are affectionately remembered with songs of mother, love, home and heaven. But, more than their selections is "Little Jimmie" himself. Surely he's a gift from God. He possesses exceptional endowments. His influence seems to call out life from every life that touches his. A man in middle-life said to me recently, with tears on his face, as "Little Jimmie" and his Dad were reviewing at the Studio, preceding their broadcast, "I would give two worlds like this, if I had them to give, if I had a precious boy like that." The old and the young, the learned and the unlearned, have been taught again, how to pray, as Little Jimmie bows his head at the microphone, leading thousands of children in front of their own radios, in chanting his good-night, prayer-song. It's the "music of the heart, from the heart of the child" and can never die of its stainless purity.



"THE SIZEMORE FAMILY"

Mother, Dad, Buddy, Nancy Louise and Little Jimmie





Little Jimmie and Buddy Boy

LITTLE JIMMIE
Age Six Months

Yes, Little Jimmie is a dear sweet boy, living each day the life of a perfectly normal, healthy, "regular boy." His childish imagination carries him far into the world of "makebelieve" in which he plays the parts of policeman, cowboy,

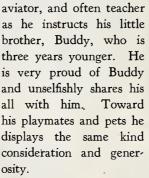


LITTLE JIMMIE Age Two Years

LITTLE JIMMIE

"A good start is half the battle." An age-long saying, but not out of date and nowhere more true than in a child's education. The proverbial three R's are still essential, but wise teachers and parents of today require that life shall mean to their children, a valid, creative and satisfying experience, by building attitudes and abilities toward successful living.

"Child Psychology" is only a branch of general psychology. This study is confined, therefore, to a careful observation of the child. Its purposes are primarily to discover the child's interests, his strength and endurance; choosing subjects which appeal to the child's development. To this delicate task, a devoted father is lending his personal supervision, determined that the very best that can be given, is none too good for Little Jimmie.



Little Jimmie is encouraged to be independent. He is required to



LITTLE JIMMIE Age One Year

wash and dress himself, and on many occasions he is Buddy's first assistant when brother's little fingers can't locate all the buttons. The boys have their own little office with its desk, chairs, toy telephones and writing equipment, and they are held responsible for its care.

Little Jimmie enjoys his visits to children's homes and hospitals. He is always happy when he thinks he has helped to bring sunshine to somebody else. The brightest spot of his entire day is the fifteen minutes he spends before the microphone. He knows there are countless thousands out there waiting to hear his little songs. This is an inspiration to the little fellow and it is reflected in his songs and childish sayings on the air.



LITTLE JIMMIE
Age Three Years

The consciousness of this vast radio audience does not alter the childish simplicity and he always remains the same sweet Little Jimmie to all who know him. Thus, it is easy to understand why he receives thousands of letters from all parts of the United States and Canada, in which the feelings of his audience are summed up in such typical expressions as these:

"You have brought lots of cheer to our home," "We thank our Savior each night for you," "I am 78 years of age and would not miss your programme," "I listen to you each evening from my room at the Hospital, and it makes me forget that I am sick," "Surely it is the ministry of an Angel."

It is not difficult to understand, "For of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."



LITTLE JIMMIE

Age Four, with tiny Brother "Buddy"



LITTLE JIMMIE
Age Five Years



I'm goin' to kill that boog-ger bear, so he can't scare boys like me.

Moderato

wolf,

Interlude

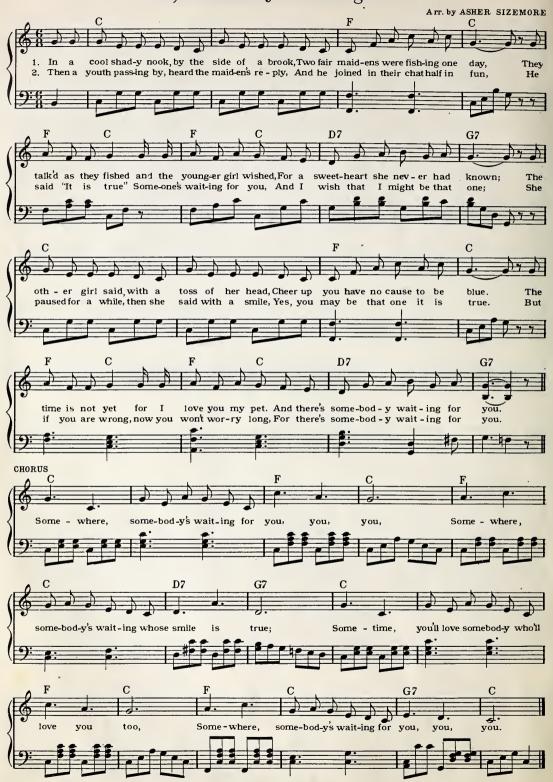
too

be aman, a hun-ter I will be,

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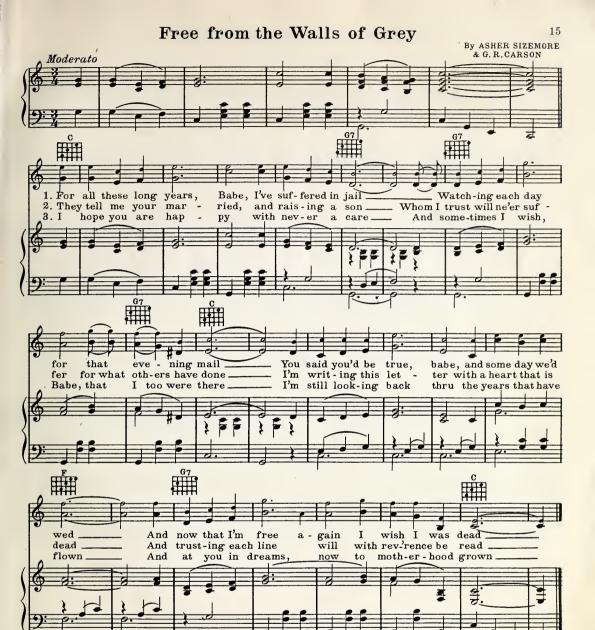
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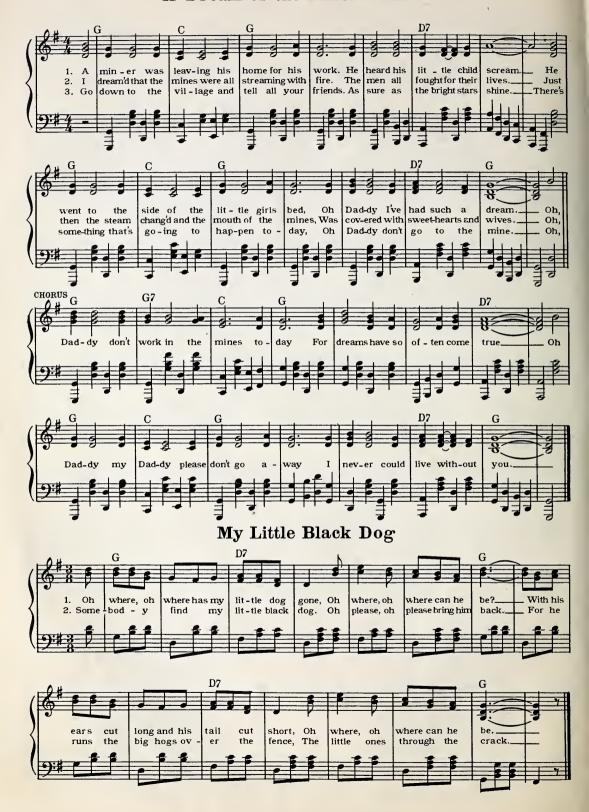




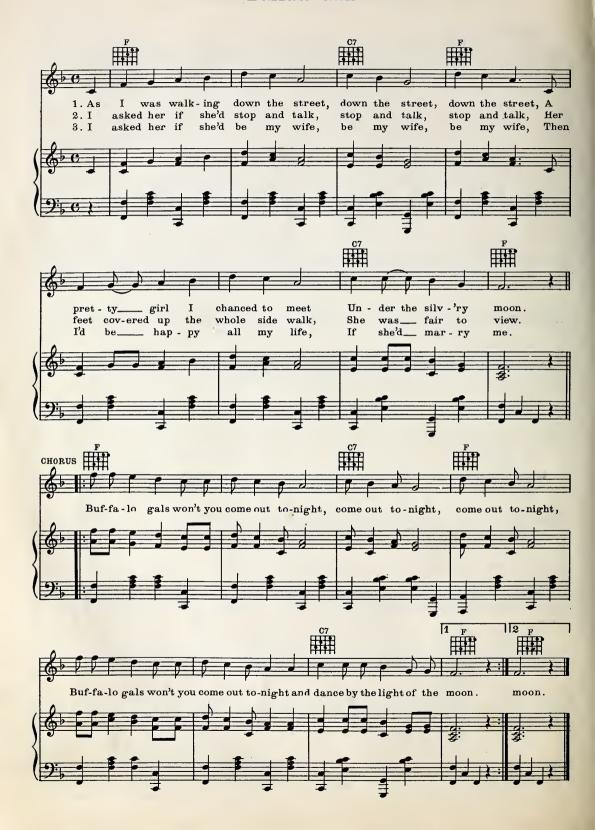


- 4. For the crime of another I've suffered too well,
 But I've kept my word, Babe,
 That I'd never tell.
 The one who was guilty
 Will soon have to pay,
 At the judging of souls,
 On the great judgment day.
- 5. There are scores now in prison, Who are serving out time. Each doing his stretch For another one's crime. No thought of revenge, Babe, Now enters my mind, I hope that your loved ones, To you will be kind.

- 6. There's no place now that I could call home.
 So on to the west, Babe, I sadly must roam.
 There's another to think of In heaven I know, It's my mother, God bless her, Who prayed for me so.
- 7. With God's help I'll meet her Some day over there I wish I were now, Babe, But my troubles I'll bear I've aged and I've suffered, Behind walls of Grey, For twenty-one years, Babe, Is some debt to pay.



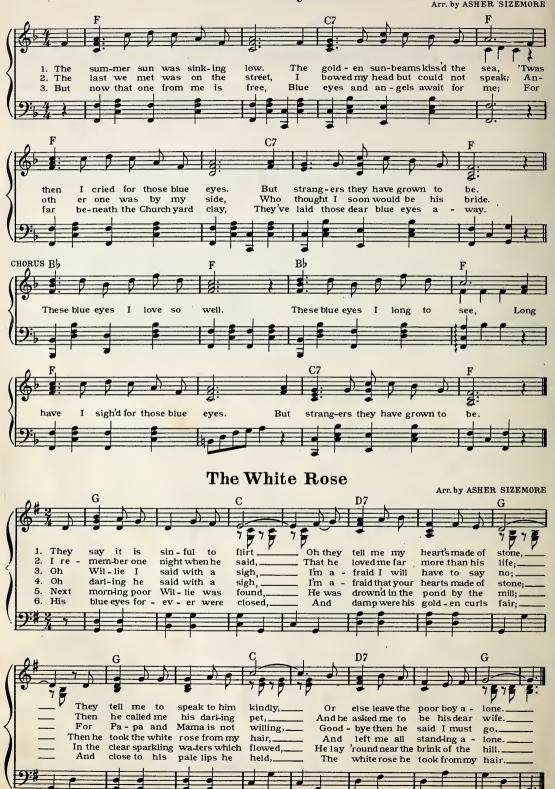










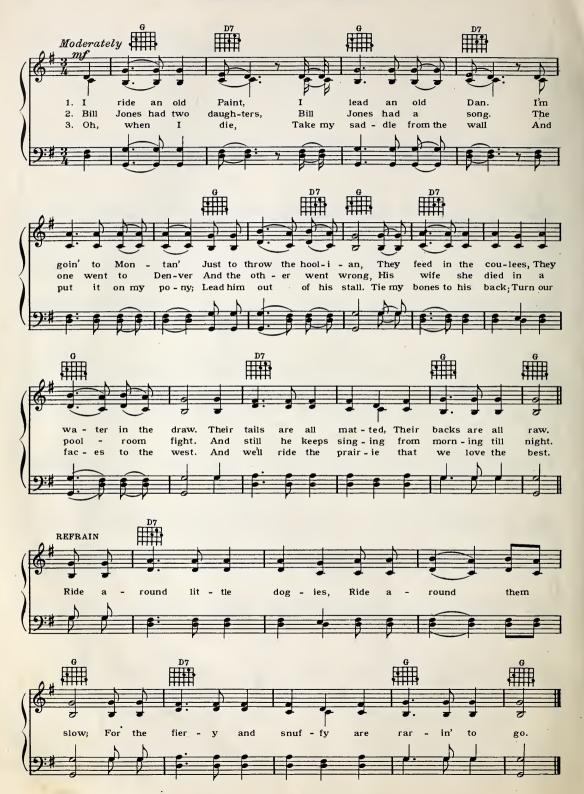






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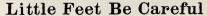














My Humble Cottage Home Words & Music by W.B. STEVENS of gal - l'ry my mind, 1. In walk a - round I Pic - tures 2. Long a go the home was sold. Then the house and trees grew old, And we 3. When the bu - sy day is done, And the time of rest be - gun, can D7 **A7** G lit - tle cot-tage home, Near the that re-call the hap-py days gone by; chil-dren have all scat-tered far a - way; But pic-ture I can see, Hap-py a group all seat-ed in their chairs; fa - ther said the Word, Then kneels Asmy G in which I'd roam. mo-ther's smile which gave fields And my me joy. a group could be, In that hum - ble cot - tage home play. leads the fam - 'ly down be-fore the Lord. As he in their prayers. Now my mo - ther's gone to heav - en, And I'll And my dear old dad - dy too, nev - er have their coun-sels an - y But I more. hope to meet my par-ents, In the G be-yond the blue, Where all sep a ra - tion will o'er.





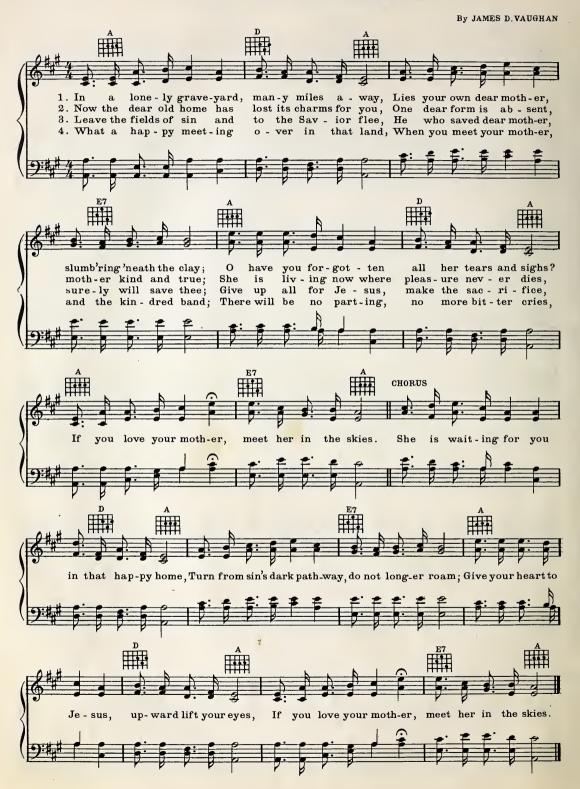






Jas.C. Moore, owner.











heav'n.

givn.

J. M.HENSON

want

want

CHORUS

JAMES ROWE

Borne it

D.S. Je - sus

is gath-er-ing

James D. Vaughn, Owner, Lawrenceburg, Tenn. Used by permission

Gath-er - ing buds.

day

gath-er - ing buds,

af - ter day,

Buds for

Won - der - ful care will

Pal - ace

to

want

Shake Hands With Mother Again



E.M. Bartlet, Owner. Used by permission







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